universally applied. The Media's own assessment, however, has brought out different results about listenership and viewership.

The percentage of population covered by All India Radio and Doordarshan in the Hindi speaking areas is as under:—

| State/Union Territory | Percentage of population covered | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | All India Radio | | Doordarshan |
| | Primary Channel | Vividh Bharati Channel | |
| Rajasthan | 95% | 1.97% | 48.1% |
| Uttar Pradesh | 96% | 2.0% | 85.9% |
| Madhya Pradesh | 91% | 1.4% | 43.5% |
| Bihar | 99% | 1.48% | 75.1% |
| Himachal Pradesh | 75% | No V.B. Channel | 57.3% |
| Haryana | 97% | No V.B. Channel | 98.5% |
| Delhi | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Chandigarh | 100% | 100% | 100% |

**Irregularities in the working of the ICAR and the agricultural institutes**

*273. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by Government on the report of the C&AG indicating the ICAR and the Agricultural Institutes for non-maintenance of proper registers of assets for 1987-88, for non-rectification of the discrepancies in the accounts and permanent advance registers for 1986-87 besides non-furnishing of the requisite details of Debt Deposit and Remittance (DDR) transactions alongwith the Annual Accounts by a number of institutes and on various other counts;

(b) whether Government propose to institute an inquiry into the working of the ICAR and the Agricultural Institutes in the country; if so, the decision, if any, taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) The audit Report was received in February, 1989. The following action has been taken on the report since then:—

(i) Instructions had been issued to all the formations of the Council during December, 1987 for proper maintenance of assets register in the prescribed format and to reconcil it with the value of stores exhibited in the stock register. After receipt of the Audit Report for 1987-88 in second half of February, 1989, instructions have again been issued during March, 1989 to bring the assets register upto date and produce it to the Audit at the time of the audit of the accounts for the financial year 1988-89. (ii) In the consolidated report on the accounts of the Council for the year 1986-87 there was no para where the figures shown in the accounts and in the permanent advance registers were to be rectified. (iii) Seventeen insti-

tutes did not produce details of debit, deposit and remittance heads transactions at the time of their audit, these details were furnished by them later on alongwith their annual accounts. On the basis of these details only, the consolidated DDR heads statement was furnished by the Council to the Audit. All the formations of the Council have, however, been instructed during March, 1989 to produce all the detailed records of DDR heads to the audit at the time of audit of the tccounts for the year 1988-89 positively. (iv) Replies have been furnished by the Council to the Director of Audit, Commerce, Works and Miscellaneous, New Delhi in response to the Audit Report on the accounts of the ICAR.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, no inquiry is contemplated into the working of the ICAR and Agricultural Institutes in the country.

**Recommendations of the Parthasarthy Committee**

*274. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Parthasarthi Committee have formulated certain guidelines for Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these guidelines are strictly adhered to; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A 14 Member Media Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri G. Parthasarthy (Sr.) was constituted in November, 1980 to advise the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on policies and programmes relating to the Media Units under its administartive control. This Committee, *Inter alia*, also framed guidelines relating to the "News Policy for Broadcast Media" Excerpts from the news policy guidelines are reproduced below:—

(i) The reporting of the news has to be factual, accurate and objective and only such views as make news should find a place in news-broadcasts.

(ii) Each news story should be judged strictly on the basis of its news value.

(iii) In selection of news, AIR and Doordarshan should be guided by the highest possible professional standards.

(iv) News should be treated factually and objectively and, where necessary, background to the events and happenings should be provided to help place such events and happenings in proper perspective.

(v) News should satisfy the highest criteria of accuracy and responsibility.

(vi) People's participation in development activities as also significant work being done by voluntary agencies should be duly highlighted.

(vii) The style and method of news-reporting should reinforce the fundamental principles of national policies, including territorial integrity, national integration, secularism, maintenance of public order and upholding the dignity and prestige of Parliament, State Legislatures and the Judiciary.

(viii) Ministerial statement on policy matters particularly those of the Prime Minister, and implementation of Government Programmes should be given proper place in the news. The focus should be on information rather than on individuals.

(ix) reporting on political controversies, the broadcast media should be guided by objectivity and fair play. Due representation of differing views should be the aim.